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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Volksmilizische Bereitschaften in Land Saxony-Anhalt

25X1 EVALUATION ☐ PLACE OBTAINED ☐ 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT December 1950 to January 1951

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1st VP Bereitschaft.

1. On 6 January 1951, the 1st VP Bereitschaft (Arty) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was located in the former explosives factory, Kietz. It had a strength of 1,000 men and was organized into three artillery Kommandos and one signal platoon.
2. The officers of the 1st VP Bereitschaft included VP Inspekteur Tels, (fnu), commanding officer, who arrived from the Pirna VP school on 1 January 1951, succeeding VP Oberrat Krahn, (fnu), who was to be discharged on 31 January 1951; VP Oberkommissar Wagner, (fnu), PK officer; VP Oberkommissar Schlittner, (fnu), deputy commanding officer; VP Kommissar Kipka, (fnu), deputy PK officer; VP Rat Gottschalk, (fnu), commanding officer of 1st Kommando; VP Kommissar Dittmar, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; VP Oberkommissar Lehmann, (fnu), PK officer of 2nd Kommando; and VP Oberkommissar Handke, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando.
3. The equipment included three German 150-mm guns, two German 105-mm guns, one German 88-mm AT gun, two German 75-mm guns, six Soviet field howitzers, 13 Soviet 76.2-mm guns and sufficient small arms to equip one-third of the personnel. The training included gun drill and training in fire-control. (1)

3d VP Bereitschaft.

4. The 3d VP Bereitschaft (Inf) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was in Apollonsdorf until December 1950. Its strength was 1,200 police organized into three Kommandos and one Sonderabteilung.
5. The key officers of the Bereitschaft were VP Oberrat Geike, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Wollmann, (fnu), PK officer; VP Oberkommissar Hanke, (fnu), commanding officer of 1st Kommando; VP Oberkommissar Gliese, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; VP Oberkommissar Beldan, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando; and VP Meister Zarecke, (fnu), leader of Sonderkommando.

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6. The unit was equipped with medium mortars, Maxim machine guns, carbines and model 08 pistols.
7. The 3d VP Bereitschaft was deactivated in late December 1950; 600 of its personnel were reassigned to VP Bereitschaften of Land Saxony. (2)

5th VP Bereitschaft.

8. The 5th VP Bereitschaft (Inf) was stationed at 112 Zeitzerstrasse, Weissenfels, in late December 1950. It had about 1,000 members organized into three 280-man Kommandos and one 100-man Sonderkommando, which was a mortar unit.
9. Key officers were VP Kommandeur Kieseewetter, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Keil, (fnu), PK officer; VP Rat Hartmann, (fnu), interrogation officer; VP Rat Doerfel, (fnu), commanding officer of 1st Kommando; VP Oberrat Roehs, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; VP Oberkommissar Schweigel, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando; and VP Oberkommissar Satter, (fnu), who served as both PK officer of the 3d Kommando and as commanding officer of the motor transport section.
10. The equipment included six 120-mm mortars, eight 80-mm mortars, models 34 and 08/15 machine guns, model 98-K carbines and model 08 pistols. (3)

6th VP Bereitschaft.

11. The 6th VP Bereitschaft (Arms) was stationed in Waldfrieden near Burg in late December 1950. It had 1,300 police organized into a headquarters, four Kommandos and one Sonderkommando.
12. Its key officers were VP Oberrat Schramm, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Rat Issensee, (fnu), PK officer; VP Rat Kunze, (fnu), operations officer; VP Oberrat Nikolai, (fnu), Soviet control officer; VP Rat Adam, (fnu), commanding officer of 1st Kommando; VP Kommissar Saller, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; VP Kommissar Liebsch, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando; and VP Oberkommissar Beil, (fnu), commanding officer of Sonderkommando. VP Rat Gabei, (fnu), the former commanding officer of the Bereitschaft, was detached to the Moscow military academy on 21 December 1950.
13. The unit's equipment included four T-34 tanks, two Soviet SP guns, several American-made armored scout cars and some ammunition carriers. (4)

7th VP Bereitschaft.

14. The 7th VP Bereitschaft (Inf) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was stationed in Dessau-Nord at the beginning of December 1950. It had 1,000 police organized into three 280-man Kommandos and one 160-man Sonderkommando, which was a mortar unit.
15. Commanding officer was either VP Oberrat Geiling, (fnu), or VP Rat Kuehn, (fnu). Other key officers were VP Oberkommissar Kuenscher, (fnu), PK officer; VP Meister Ossowsky, (fnu), leader of 1st Kommando; and VP Kommissar Rothe, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando.
16. The equipment included medium mortars, models 08/15 and 38 machine guns, submachine guns, carbines and pistols. (5)

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8th VP Bereitschaft.

17. The 8th VP Bereitschaft (Sig) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was located in Dessau-Kochstedt in late December 1950. It had a strength of 1,000 police organized into three 230-man Kommandos and one 100-man Sonderkommando.
18. Key officers were VP Rat Wolk, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberkommissar Schulz, (fnu), PK officer; VP Rat Kuhn, (fnu), commanding officer of 1st Kommando; VP Oberkommissar Sturm, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; and VP Oberkommissar Martini, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando.
19. The unit was equipped with several transmitters of up to 120-watts capacity, one 10-watt ultra-high frequency transmitter, and B and C-type radio sets. Upon completion of training, most of the personnel were scheduled to be employed as radio operators in tanks and aircraft. (6)

9th VP Bereitschaft.

20. The 9th VP Bereitschaft (Sig) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was located in Dessau-Kochstedt in late December 1950. It numbered 1,000 police organized into the headquarters and three Kommandos.
21. Key officers of the 9th VP Bereitschaft were VP Oberrat Gutezeit, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Heleschmidt, (fnu), PK officer; VP Rat Pohl, (fnu), liaison officer to the SSD; and VP Rat Fischer, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando.
22. The equipment of the unit included medium mortars, model 34 machine guns, carbines and pistols, 26 portable switchboards, and model 33 field telephones. (6)

VP Bereitschaft

23. On 10 January 1951, VP Bereitschaft of Land Saxony-Anhalt, located in Kochstedt, had 1,000 to 1,200 police organized into a headquarters and four Kommandos.
24. The key officers were VP Kommandeur Erich Fischer, commanding officer; VP Kommandeur Erwin Burghardt, PK officer; VP Rat Sachse, (fnu), VP Oberkommissar Schoder, (fnu), and VP Oberkommissar Holzschuhmacher, (fnu), liaison officers to the Soviet Armed Forces; four Soviet liaison officers; VP Rat Zander, (fnu), commanding officer of 2nd Kommando; and VP Rat Wachter, (fnu), commanding officer of 3d Kommando. (6)

VP Bereitschaft in Torgau.

25. On 15 December 1950, a VP Bereitschaft (Arty) of Land Saxony-Anhalt was stationed in the former PK school in Torgau. It numbered 1,100 to 1,200 police organized into the headquarters and four Kommandos.
26. The key officers were VP Kommandeur Blech, or Bleck, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Hunkel, (fnu), chief of staff; VP Rat Lehmann, (fnu), commanding officer of 4th Kommando.

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- of 1,000 police at the end of 1950. It is possible that the time of observation in the present report was postdated.
- (2) On 16 December 1950 [redacted] about 50 percent of the police of the 3d VP Bereitschaft (Inf) in Apollensdorf have been discharged and that the other 50 percent were reassigned to other VP units. [redacted]
- (3) It was reported on 12 December that a large percentage of police of the 5th VP Bereitschaft (Inf) in Weissenfels were reassigned to other VP posts and that the VP quarters were being enlarged. [redacted]
- [redacted] This information may also have been postdated.
- (4) The information of the 6th VP Bereitschaft (Armd) in Burg seems to have been postdated. For example VP Oberst Schramm, (fml), was identified as commanding officer in August 1950. [redacted]
- The departure of many police from there was reported on 2 December 1950.
- (5) [redacted] The information, though probably also postdated, confirms previous data on the 7th VP Bereitschaft (Inf) in Dessau. [redacted]
- (6) The transfer of the 9th VP Bereitschaft (Telekom) from Kochstedt was previously reported. [redacted]
- The present information on the 8th and 9th VP Bereitschaften was probably postdated. The information on the VP Bereitschaft with [redacted] seems credible and of a recent date, since VP units with [redacted] have been observed since December 1950.

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